

VERNON, VERMONT

December 5, 2018

The Honorable Ajit Pai, Chairman
The Honorable Michael O'Rielly, Commissioner
The Honorable Brendan Carr, Commissioner
The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel, Commissioner

Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
455 12th Street, Southwest
Washington, DC 20544

Dear Chairman Pai,

As representatives of the Town of Vernon, Vermont, we are writing to support the Comments of Brattleboro Community Television, Inc. (File ID 1113560010350) and to disapprove of the proposals and tentative conclusions set forth in the FCC's September 25 Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making in *Implementation of Section 627(a)(1) of the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 as Amended by the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992*, MB Docket 05-311.

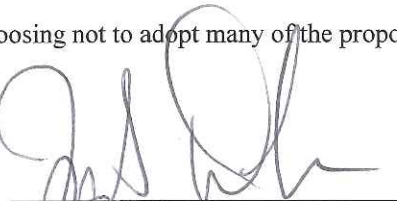
The Town of Vernon relies heavily on Brattleboro Community Television (BCTV) to deliver information to our residents. Selectboard meetings and Town Meetings are regularly broadcast and viewed by residents that are unable to attend in person, giving them a voice and a chance to stay informed. This resource is particularly important to our disabled and elderly residents. BCTV continues to be a partner to local government and our education system by offering unlimited access to governmental proceedings that directly affect the daily lives of our citizenry.

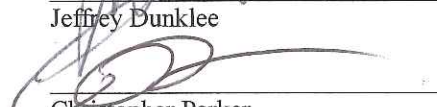
BCTV's presence provides uniquely local programming about our community, local events and issues of interest to our residents. That was the intent of the PEG provision of the 1984 Cable Act – to enhance local voices, serve local community needs and interests, and strengthen our local democracy. By defining "franchise fee" in an overly broad fashion to include "in-kind" support, the FCC's proposals will shift the fair balance between cable franchising authorities and cable operators – something that was never the intent of the Act – and could ultimately result in such reduction in franchise fees as to defund PEG Access in our state.

We urge you to protect PEG Access in our community and others by choosing not to adopt many of the proposals in the Further Notice.

Respectfully,


Joshua Unruh, Chair


Jeffrey Dunklee


Christopher Parker


Sandra Harris, Vice Chair


Jean Carr, Clerk